



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

APR 30 2002

Dr. Isabelle Chmitelin
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
251 Rue de Vaugirard
75732 Paris
Cedex 15, France

Dear Dr. Chmitelin:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has completed an on-site audit of France's meat and poultry inspection system. The audit was conducted from May 7 through May 23, 2001. Enclosed is a copy of the final audit report. Your comments have been included as Attachment "G" in the final audit report. FSIS appreciates the corrective actions taken by the Government of France to address the audit findings.

If you have questions regarding the audit or need additional information, please contact me at 202-720-3781. You may also reach me by fax number 202-690-4040 or by e-mail address sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov. Alternatively, you may contact Richard F. Brown by phone at 202-690-2679, by fax at 202-690-4719, or you may reach him by e-mail at richard.brown@fsis.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Sally Stratmoen
Chief, Equivalence Section
International Policy Staff
Office of Policy, Program Development
and Evaluation

Enclosure

cc:

Alejandro Checchi-Lang, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

Besa Kotati, Agricultural Counselor, U.S. Embassy, Paris

Carol Buy, Acting Counselor for Agriculture, Embassy of France, Wash., DC

bcc:

Ronald Hicks, Acting Associate Administrator, FSIS

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